

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. ~~A concurrent dynamic pricing marketing and sales system for providing~~
buyer access to inventory items of a seller, comprising:

an inventory sales tool accessible to a plurality of buyers through at least one
medium;

5 said inventory sales tool being effective to provide an indication of an
available quantity of an item and a plurality of pricing schemes;

at least one of said pricing schemes permits at least one of said buyers to
request an immediate purchase at an immediate purchase price; and

10 at least another of said pricing schemes permits said at least one of said
buyers to request a deferred purchase at a deferred purchase price.

2. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein said at least one
medium is a worldwide network of interconnected computers.

3. A marketing system according to claim 1, further comprising:
buyer selectable shopping channels; and
each of said shopping channels permits buyer access to said inventory items
based on a type of merchandise.

4. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein said immediate
purchase price decreases over a specified time period when no purchase requests are
made.

5. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein said immediate
purchase price increases a specified amount when an immediate purchase is made.

6. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein said indication is effective to provide information related to purchases by all of said buyers.

7. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein said item is made available for a limited duration of time.

8. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein:
said immediate purchase price can fluctuate;
said deferred purchase request includes an open order purchase request made by a first buyer;
5 said open order purchase request includes an open price;
 said open order purchase request being fillable if said open price matches said immediate purchase price; and
 said open order purchase request being accessible to no others of said buyers except said first buyer.

9. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein:
said inventory sales tool includes a lot price for a lot containing a specified quantity of said items;
 said lot price and said specified quantity determine an average price for each
5 of said items in said lot;
 said deferred purchase request includes a demand purchase request made by said at least one of said buyers;
 said demand purchase request includes a demand price;
 said demand purchase request being fillable after a prescribed amount of time
10 has passed if said demand price is not less than said average price; and
 said demand purchase request being accessible to no others of said buyers except said at least one of said buyers.

10. A marketing system according to claim 9, wherein:
said at least one of said buyers includes at least another buyer;
said deferred purchase request includes at least another demand purchase
request made by said at least another buyer;

5 said at least another demand purchase request includes another demand price;
 said demand purchase request and said at least another demand purchase
request being both fillable after said prescribed amount of time has passed if a sum of
said demand price and said another demand price is not less than a total number of
said items requested multiplied by said average price;

10 said demand purchase request being accessible to no others of said buyers
except said at least one of said buyers; and
 said at least another demand purchase request being accessible to no others of
said buyers except said at least another buyer.

11. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein a filled immediate
purchase decreases said available quantity of said item for said deferred purchase.

12. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein:
said inventory sales tool includes a minimum auction price;
said deferred purchase request includes an auction purchase request including
a bid purchase price;

5 said auction purchase request being fillable if said bid purchase price is not
less than said minimum auction price and said bid purchase price is greater or equal
to any other bid purchase price submitted for a like quantity of items.

13. A marketing system according to claim 10, wherein said seller sets said
lot price.

14. A marketing system according to claim 12, wherein said seller sets said minimum auction price and a bid purchase price increment by which said bid purchase price is permitted to change.

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~~15. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein said seller sets a minimum immediate purchase price.~~

16. A marketing system according to claim 8, wherein:
said inventory sales tool includes a lot price for a lot containing a specified quantity of said items;
said lot price and said specified quantity determine an average price for each
5 of said items in said lot;
said deferred purchase request includes a demand purchase request made by said at least one of said buyers;
said demand purchase request includes a demand price;
said demand purchase request being fillable after a prescribed amount of time
10 has passed if said demand price is not less than said average price; and
said demand purchase request being accessible to no others of said buyers except said at least one of said buyers.

17. A marketing system according to claim 16, wherein:
said inventory sales tool includes a minimum auction price;
said deferred purchase request includes an auction purchase request including
a bid purchase price;
5 said auction purchase request being fillable if said bid purchase price is not less than said minimum auction price and said bid purchase price is greater or equal to any other bid purchase price submitted for a like quantity of items.

18. A marketing system according to claim 1, wherein said inventory items are composed of excess inventory.

19. A marketing system according to claim 17, wherein said inventory items are composed of excess inventory.

20. A marketing system according to claim 2, wherein said inventory sales tool is accessible on a web site.

21. A marketing system according to claim 20, wherein said web site is related to a general buyer interest.

22. A marketing system according to claim 20, wherein said web site is related to a manufacturer of said inventory items.

23. A marketing system according to claim 20, wherein said web site is related to a distributor of said inventory items.

24. A marketing system according to claim 20, wherein said web site is a general purpose web site including at least a search engine.

25. A marketing system according to claim 1, further including an indication showing for a first buyer at least any immediate purchase selections with immediate purchase prices and any deferred purchase selections with deferred purchase prices.

26. A marketing system according to claim 25, wherein said indication is effective to permit said first buyer to complete a sales transaction based on said selections.

27. A marketing system according to claim 25, further including:
a storage medium;
said indication being storable on said storage medium; and
a profile describing purchase trends of said first buyer contains information
5 related to all of said indications stored on said storage medium.

28. A marketing system according to claim 25, further including:
a first buyer notification; and
said first buyer notification containing information related to offers for sale of
said inventory items.

29. A marketing system according to claim 28, wherein said first buyer
notification operates on an electronic mailing system.

30. A marketing system according to claim 27, further including:
a first buyer notification; and
said first buyer notification containing information related to offers for sale of
said inventory items.

31. A system providing buyer purchase choices, comprising:
an inventory content indication effective to provide information about at least
a portion of an inventory content including at least one saleable item;
a communication network effective to provide access to said indication for a
5 plurality of users;
a plurality of buying options including at least one of a current purchase
option and a deferred purchase option related to said at least one saleable item; and

10 said communication network effective to provide access to said plurality of
buying options for said plurality of users, whereby said plurality of users may modify
at least one parameter of any one of said plurality of buying options.

32. A system according to claim 31, wherein said modification of said at
least one parameter includes submission of a buy request.

33. A system for providing buyer and seller purchase feedback, comprising:
an inventory content indication effective to provide information about at least
a portion of an inventory content including a plurality of saleable items;
a plurality of variable prices related to each of said saleable items;
5 a communication network effective to provide access to at least one of said
indication and said prices for a plurality of buyers and at least one seller;
a plurality of buying options including at least one of a current purchase
option and a deferred purchase option related to said at least one of said indication
and said prices;
10 said buying options permit said buyers to submit purchase requests; and
said at least one seller can modify parameters of said buying options.

34. A method of offering inventory items for sale, comprising:
providing to a buyer an indication of available quantities for inventory items
of a seller;
providing to said buyer a plurality of pricing schemes for said inventory
5 items;
at least one of said pricing schemes permitting said buyer to request an
immediate purchase at an immediate purchase price;
at least another of said pricing schemes permitting said buyer to request a
deferred purchase at a deferred purchase price; and

10 filling said purchase requests if said purchase prices meet specific criterion.

35. A method according to claim 34, wherein:

 said deferred purchase includes at least one of an open order; a demand order
and an auction bid order;

 filling said open order if a related open order purchase price is not less than
5 said immediate purchase price;

 filling said demand order within a specified period of time if a related
demand order price is not less than an average lot price for an inventory lot including
said inventory items; and

 filling said auction bid order if a related auction bid order price is greater than
10 any other auction bid order price.

36. A method according to claim 35, wherein said method is operable over a
network of interconnected computers.

37. A method according to claim 34, wherein said inventory items comprise
excess inventory including at least one of excess items, returned items and repaired
items.

38. An article of manufacture comprising a computer readable medium in
which is stored a computer program for offering inventory items for sale, the
computer program comprising:

 a first code segment executable to provide to a buyer an indication of
5 available quantities for inventory items of a seller;

 a second code segment executable to permit said buyer to request an
immediate purchase at an immediate purchase price;

a third code segment executable to permit said buyer to request a deferred purchase at a deferred purchase price; and

10 a fourth code segment executable to fill said purchase requests if said purchase prices meet specific criterion.

39. A tool for providing a buyer and seller access to an inventory, comprising:

an indication of quantities of inventory items;

a current price associated with each of said inventory items;

5 a deferred price associated with each of said inventory items;

an offer facility which permits said seller to set parameters associated with said prices;

a purchase facility which permits said buyer to select purchases from among said inventory items for purchase; and

10 said selected purchases can be made at either a current price or a deferred price.

40. A tool according to claim 39, wherein said tool can be provided on a web site accessible to said buyer.